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Central

2. (Amended) The composition [spheroidal particles] of claim 1, wherein said [coal slag] particles comprise, in weight percent based on the total weight of the particles: SiO₂ in the range of about 20 to 60 weight percent; Al₂O₃ in the range of about 10 to 15 weight percent; Fe₂O₃ and FeO in the range of about 5 to 35 weight percent; CaO in the range of about 1 to 20 weight percent; and Na₂O and K₂O in the range of about 0.1 to 4 weight percent.

b2 [In each of claims 3-8, please replace "Spheroidal particles of claim 1" with] The composition of claim 1--.

[Please add claims 51 and 52.]

b3 51. (New) The composition of claim 1, wherein at least about 90% of the particles are substantially spheroidal.

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52. (New) The composition of claim 1, wherein the particles have an average hardness of at least 503 HV.--

Remarks

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated September 22, 1999. Claims 9-50 were cancelled without prejudice, claims 1-8 were amended, and claim 51 and 52 were added. Accordingly, claim 1-8, 51, and 52 are pending. No new matter has been added. The amendments to the claims are supported in the specification.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for lacking antecedent basis for the term "said coal slag particles". Claim 2 has been amended to recite "said particles" which has antecedent basis from claim 1. The Applicant requests withdrawal of this rejection.